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#### The Muddle in the Prohibition Amendment.

Prohibition Amendment, as passed by the House on Monday for submission to the States, contains one section which practically nullifies an express provision of the existing Constitution and either means chaos or portends a radical and disastrous change in the constitutional relations of the States to the Federal Government. This is Section 2 of the amendment proposed by Congress:

"The Congress and the several States shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

As to the distribution of legislative power between the Federal Government and the States the Constitution says in the Tenth Amendment:

"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are re- this unprecedented section? corved to the States respectively, or to the people."

There is no middle ground. A power now possessed by a State may be delegated by the constitutional process to the United States. If not so delegated it is reserved to the State, or to the people. It cannot abide both in the State and in the United States for concurrent exercise. The State Government and the Federal Government cannot conceivably hold it in common or exert it simultaneously.

Yet that is precisely what the proposed amendment prescribes as it now stands. Even if the Tenth Amendment, just quoted, offered no barrier to a combination of the national legislative power and the State's legislative power on the same subject, what would be the practical effect of such an attempt at cooperation?

A law cannot be both a Federal law and a State law. The Federal provisions and its language with a State law on the same subject, but it is not the same law. The Federal Senate and the Federal House may act concurrently, for they are parts of one legislature. The United States Senate cannot possibly act concurrently with the Assembly at Albany. for instance, or with either or both of the houses of the Legislature of

How, then, is "the concurrent power of the Congress and the several States" to be exercised? By mere similarity of legislation?

But suppose the Congress and the States fall to agree no to the measares for the enforcement of the gensale or transportation of intoxicating Houors within the Union.

Any law enacted by Congress must different measures for enforcement.

In such an event would the failure of the State to act concurrently with Congress invalidate the law of Congress within the borders of that State? Might Congress, for example, include malt beverages of low alco-Mbltion, and a State Legislature at toxicating liquors" so as to permit the manufacture, sale and transporta-

State was concerned? Or, again, as to the police power to for unfair discrimination. enforce prohibition. Might Congress indeed, all the States, acting concur-upon the broad lines of a world issue

Hundreds of similar questions arise tened to by large audiences. as we study this unfortunate section

necessarily prevail.

obvious to common sense that there line will be vallantly held. could be no such concurrence, even if stitution, reserving exclusively to the States respectively or the people all United States, had never been.

When the Thirteenth Amendment was adopted, prohibiting slavery any where within the jurisdiction of the United States, the enabling section read as follows:

force this article by appropriate legis- the Imperial German Government; lation.

When the Fourteenth Amendment on all persons born or naturalized in to trustworthy information. the United States, and prohibiting enabling section rend as follows:

"5. The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article"

When the Fifteenth Amendment from denying or abridging the right enabling section read:

"2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legis-

Why, then, in submitting an amendment prohibiting the sale, manufact where in the United States is refuted ture or transportation of intoxicating by the industrial history of the na- Do you think Mr. Shonts would ob liquors in the United States should tion since immigration ceased bethe framers of the resolution have cause of the war. Even before the varied the form of expression and in- Kaiser moved to destroy civilization vited all the confusion, innovation and competition for negroes appeared in perhaps the nullification of laws for the labor market; after he struck his Creel Can't Use Him; Is There enforcement which must result from first blow it became intense. The

States shall have concurrent power to and habitations; the South exerted enforce this article by appropriate every influence that could be brought! I know of a clergyman who in the legislation.

Has not the experience of the country with the Fifteenth Amendment it. lustrated sufficiently the possibilities of evasion and nullification by adverse local sentiment, even when the power gress alone? How much worse would have been the violations of the Fifteenth Amendment If an attempt had been made to seeme the concurrent action of the Southern States for its Guard army are composed practi-

So well convinced is The Sun that the time for submitting a national prohibition amendment has come, for sinhity in the acceptance and rejecgreatly regret the blunder in phrase- tion will not be larger. which we have been attention and hope that the mistake he expected to send negro troops to dependent upon him. may be corrected before it is too late. Europe. Negroes make excellent sol-1. Is it because he is not a native cal defect so embarrassing to the suc- civil and the Spanish wars. Their tensely patriotic Perhaps you

language of the resolution should be ratification.

# The Canadian Elections.

eral prohibition of the manufacture, asked by the Unionists was, "Does Canada fight or run?" By this was junities to get shot as he enjoyed meant would Canada have conscription? It was not a question of ennetbe uniform in its operation in all the ing a law compelling conscription, for with legislation exactly similar and should she enforce the provisions of "intoxicating liquors," or providing and thus keep up the flow of recruits to the front.

This was not precisely the issue as fessed to understand it. Under the leadership of the veteran and attractive LAURIER they insisted that there define "intoxicating liquors" so as to would be no abatement of the vigorous prosecution of the war. LAURIER tor in this region. Dr. LYMAN ABBOTT, holic potency and to decree their pro- had pledged himself to a referendum upon the activity that is his as he on conscription. There was, too, dis- enters upon his eighty-third year, and the same time define the phrase "in- cussion of changes which would make we trust that for at least eighteen the measure more palatable to Quebec Years longer he will continue to write and other Liberal strongholds. The tion of the mild fluid prohibited by delays incident upon such action Federal authority at Washington? would seriously interfere with keep-There would be no concurrent action ing up the proper strength of the Caa that case; would the Federal law madian force at the front, the Unionfall through, so far as that dissenting ists held, and the suggested modifications would permit opportunities hibition list.

The personal element and also the enact measures for enforcement purely party distinctions held very which should be rigid and effective, little place in the vigorous camwhile a State, or several States, or, paign. The question was fought out rently, adopted provisions so framed In western Canada, where the results as to mitigate the rigors of enforce- show a strong Unionist following. ment and make evasion easy? In such Laurier made a particularly aggrescase would the law of Congress or the sive fight. He is reported to have law of the State prevnil within the spoken with his old time forcefulness and conviction and to have been lis-

Quebec went as it was expected which has been incorporated—for that it would go; but western Canada, what clearly conceived purpose we where it was believed there was a cannot baseline in the text of the strong opposition to the draft, disap- be

more plainly appear the inherent pos- complete confirmation of the conscripsibilities of confusion, of conflict of tion measure Canada has shown her authority, of divergent standardiza- determination to continue her vigortion, of practical nullification. And ous war policy and to bear her buronly answer to these questions dens of the war. She has in the past at all practically satisfactory to ordi- given liberally of her resources and nary intelligence is to say that in the men. The bravery of the "Princess failure of concurrence between the Pats" and the valor of other Canadian United States and the States, or any regiments at Ypres and on the Flanone of the States, the power and the ders fronts have passed into the hislegislative acts of Congress would tory of glorious deeds of the war. Canadian troops are supporting the Brit-Then why is concurrent power on ish on the front from St. Quentin to the part of the States to enforce pro- the North Sen, and the result of the a violation of the censorship. hibition by appropriate legislation election means that Canada will conspecified in the amendment? It is tinue her contingent and that their

We congratulate the Borden Ad the Tenth Amendment to the Con- ministration and the people of Canada MR. SHONTS'S ADMONITIONS generally upon a result so highly satisfactory from the point of view of powers not fully delegated to the American sympathy with and friendship for the great Dominion to the

### Black Men in Khaki.

This is the kind of stuff the official Wolff News Agency imposes on the "2. Congress shall have power to en- people of Germany at the behest of

"A strong movement for the establishment of an army composed of nevas adopted, conferring citizenship gross is on foot in America, according

"They expect a doubly beneficial efany State from abridging the privi- fect from this plan-the Allies will get unable to avoid reading them. And an leges or immunities of citizens, the liberal assistance without white citizens being sacrificed and America will rid herself of the greater part of her undesirable colored citizens."

The design of those who originated this false report includes two pur- Mr. Shonts has left no point uncovered. was adopted, prohibiting the States loses. They would represent to Ger- Neither has he left anything open to many a nation cynically opposing to doubt. His work has been truly wonderto vote on account of race, color or it troops drawn from only one class ful, and there seems to be no reas previous condition of servitude, the in the population, soldiers coerced into service; and they would at the same time instil into the minds of ship involved, but I would only be folblack Americans hatred and fear of lowing a well established custom. their white neighbors.

The allegation that negroes are regarded as "undesirable citizens" any-North tried to win the negroes of the South from their accustomed labor to bear to retain them. The record of the struggle for negro labor is the

With regard to a negro army, the authors of the Wolff Agency's desbean armies now in the making. The United States army and the National National Army is made up of men chosen under a selective draft which the good of the whole country and in then of men. The negro's contribuorder that the restraints of govern- tion to the National Army will be mental power may be put upon the in proportion to the population, as up, though I am sure there must be

The United States may reasonably fession, and has more cess of the general proposition sub- worth has been proved in the navy; answer this puzzle. they have served afield and affoat The power of enforcement should wherever duty has called them with be lodged in the Congress alone. The valor and distinction. The complaint of the Smoked Yankees, as the black amended in that sense before the troops were called by the Spaniards amendment goes to the States for in 1898, has not been and now is not that they were called on to do more than their share of the fighting, but that they did not have a fair chance In the intensely interesting national in the army; that enlistment was disended in Canada one of the questions nied to them, and that the white man selfishly refused them as good oppor-

himself. There will be more negroes in the armies of the Untied States herefore, because those armies will be people of the United States; and there will be no army made up of

Sir Wilfrid Lauries, courting Our parish house. Lady of the Snows, struck a blizzard.

We felicitate the oldest working edilelightfully for the Outlook, whether

Thirteen wet States could defeat the prohibition amendment. They will not be the original thirteen, however, for four of those-Georgia, Virginia and the Carolinas -are now in the pro-

Columbia has placed the Deutsches Haus at the disposal of her war hos-An appropriate place to raise a culture of Kultur.

The statue which is said to look "like a sick man recovering from the grip" may have been executed on contingent fee, contingent on complete

SULER got \$5,000 to make speeche have a Conservator of Cash.

The public hunger for the number of American soldiers in France may satisfied by the announcement

proposed amendment. The more we pointed all Liberal hopes by rolling A. MITCHELL PALMER that 200,000 of RELEASE THE CHAUFFEURS. contemplate its true inwardness, the up large Unionist majorities. By her our men are over there. We do not say that Mr. Palmer's estimate is correct, but as he is a Government cial many persons will assume that he speaks by the book. In England such an announcement, if official, would be de by the War Office or in Parlia-If the Administration desired to let the country know the size our forces in France, why should not the news have come forth in Wash-

> The statement of Major-General O'RYAN, recently returned from Europe, that "there is war enough over

While the East irrigates the West the West seeks to dry up the East.

## They Suggested a Scheme to the Pro Sector of a Much Needed Book.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: IS been a cherished ambition of mine for a long time to be the author of a My publisher assures me that such a work, if it shall indeed be complete. fill a long felt want and might have a sale. The vast amount of work involved in the preparation of it has however, been a powerful deterrent until recently. I realized that if I should be the task I would never live to finish

Now I see a great white light. For some time past I have been reading Mr. Shonts's little epistles to the travelling public. In fact, I have been idea has occurred to me concerning which I would like to ask THE SUN'S advice

Supposing I should make a collection of these episties and put them out in the form suggested. There would be no question as to its being a complete work. why I should not avail myself of it and thus win fame besides profit.

There might be a question of author most successful authors have always those who seized ideas when they found them and signed their own names to them. Shakespeare set the fashlon and everybody seems to follow it.

WOOD B. AUTHOR. New York, December 18.

# A LINGUIST VOLUNTEERS. Way He Can Serve?

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Is it hard for some people to serve their, country? Judge this case.

course of his peregrinations and studies has acquired knowledge of German French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, complete answer to the suggestion Dutch, Yiddish, Polish, Czech, Slovak, that negroes are regarded as "unde- not counting two classic and two Semitic tongues, and who knows a turn or two in the intricacies of the English language used by him in the pulpit. This patch ignore and suppress the facts Creel in Washington by means of a but are known to every person who recommendation that came from the has studied the development of Amer- head of a recognized postgraduate institution in New York city. There was a formal reply and stience ever since.

That clergyman's quest was not politi- always done as he pleased: cal: he was satisfied to serve at a nomienforcement by appropriate legisla- cally in whole of volunteers; the nal salary. Three years ago he passed, ling coal to saluting officers, and if I ever during a period of restlessness, the get out of the army it will make a dif-Federal civil service examination as translator of French, German, Spanish, has changed, and for the first time Portuguene and Dutch, and was placed know what it means to do what I am eleventh on that list. So there can be doubt as to his linguistic abilities. And yet the man's offer was not taken

use of intoxicating drinks, that we will be the white man's; his propor- many departments looking for that kind A Mistake in the Knitting Directions of a man. He is well beyond the military age, exempt by virtue of his pro-

It would be a misfortune if the reso- diers; they have a long and honorable ican, even if he was naturalized eleven lution as it passed the House day be-history in every branch of the regu-fore yesterday should carry a technifore yesterday should carry a techni- har army, the volunteer armies of the ligion, with frank convictions and in-NEWBURGH, December 18.

> with the Public Service Reserve, Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

# In Praise of New Rochelle.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir. As a reader of your valued paper for the it was said that fifty or seventy-five of past twenty years, I am moved to ex- the garments had been made up in the press my appreciation of the delightfully written article in Sunday's paper of our political campaign which has just couraged, that commissions were de- recently much maligned town of New truth, absolutely, and is the reverse of somewhat overdrawn.

Previously to the recent upheava! clubs, churches and various organizations were devising ways and means as States. Suppose one State concurs Canada already had such a law; but after than there ever have been be-"Uncle Sam's" men, and on the very another State enacts laws putting a this law and by so doing reach her de- larger than their predecessors, and of men and women were gathered to- tam A. Page wants to purge the English sojourn, and just to make conversation different construction on the words sired contingent of half a million men will be made up in a way that will gether formulating plans as to just how equalize the service among all the they could be most helpful to "our boys" in the service. Just what they have done they will do again- and more.

Drop around some Sunday evening the opponents of the Unionists pro- "undesirable chizens," black or white, and see how old Trinity is literally keep-"The Home Fires Burning" in the New York, December 15,

"Give Them Hell, Gentlemen."

From the Atchison Globe. We have known one of the new Kansas leutenants from childhood, and he will lirect his men thus: "Now, gentlemen. let us desist from further conversation and charge the enemy. I will be very much gratified, gentlemen, if you will treat the nemy with great sternness-ah, even with charge? Ah! give them hell, gentlemen.

The Drought at the National Capital Since the District of Columbia's "dry corkscrew in the city of Washington.

We're drilling at Camp Umpty-ump With mittens on our toes, And icicles to decorate Each purple tinted nose The cartridges are all congested In every blasted gun. And sentries at attention stand Past frozen in the sun.

But not a kick is coming from One thought is hugged to every breast And keeps us good and warm While mercury freezes in the tube And blinding blissards fy:

The Kalser by and by.

Those Who Operate Purely Pleasure

Cars Can Be Better Employed. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: so sorely in need of men to repair and passes from Russia, as it came to Russia. take charge of airplane and war motors that large numbers of chauffeurs who could almost qualify as expert mechanics first Romanoff Csar, to make a disadon motors should waste their time run- vantageous peace by sacrificing his west-ning machines that serve no useful pur- ern borderlands to the Kings of Poland pose whatever; automobiles that are practically toys, mere playthings to

this country runs into the millions, and believe I can safely my that several are engaged by private persons to take ment could make far better use of.

amuse their owners.

To go still further, why would it not the use and manufacture of all autoduring the period of the war? Think of the saving of rubber, metal, gas mechanical labor, &c. One automobile concern alone, I understand, contemcars within the next year. Is not this a reckless waste of labor and materia when we are engaged in a war in which economy is a vital factor?

That comfortable feeling that seems to prevail throughout America (except perhaps in military circles), that vic tory for the Allies is a thing of certainty, is responsible for much of the disinclination on the part of many to that this blind optimism is born of ignorance of the desperate fanatic determination of the German people, who are willingly laying down their lives country many will not even slightly in-

When the Government has to resort to moving picture advertising, as it is doing in its efforts to get chauffeur mechanics, it seems to me the situation New York, December 17.

BUT FOR WHAT AND WHEN? Nothing Else Is Lacking in This

Great Political Movement. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The recent city election has convinced many of the independent voters of our city that we must get together to see if we can give some good man a club to force his nomination upon one or the other of the parties; and we want a man without a hoss. And we wish to request every reader of THE SUN to write the undersigned so that we can begin work at once; for there is no time to lose the Hon. William G. McAdoo, but there are others. Trusting that you will help us to come together and that every reader of THE SUN that may wish to help in the good work will write. &c.

L. D. MATES. 562 West 144th St. NEW YORK, December 18.

### HE HAS LEARNED TO OBEY. A National Army Man Recognizes the Virtue of Discipline.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir; Here an extract from a letter from a soldier American liner Vaterland, of 54,252 in the National Army now stationed at gross tons, which had accommoda-Yaphank. To my mind this shows what tions for 2,264 passengers. She is now a month in the environment in which he the Leviathan, in Government service. now moves will do for a boy who has and

"I have done everything from shovelferent man of me. My whole idea of life told, and that absolutely no excuse will

NEW YORK, December 18.

# for Helmets!

To the Epitor of The SUN-Sir in the Red Cross knitting directions as September 10, 1917, and which bear on

An English friend of mine, and an experienced knitter, after following the printed directions and finishing a helmet found out on trying it on that the hole for the face came around on the side of the ear, and if one der're' to have the hole cover the face, the two pro tecting flaps for front and back of the throat, would be on the shoulders. On taking the garment to the Union

Hill headquarters at Union Hill, N. J., same manner.

With the needs of our sailors at the present time what they are, this mis-Rochelle. Every word you say is the take seems almost a calamity. Being very much interested in Red Cross work the picture recently painted and, I feel. I take the liberty of calling your attention to the matter so that such future mistakes may be minimized

WEEHAWKEN, N. J., December 18.

Delicatesan is a beautiful French word,

two syllables of the word mean "eating" n German, thus causing the quaint but O. D. W. NEW York, December 17.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Can an "When Hector was a pup" originated and

From the Marine News.
The Government is going in for shark fishing, but not as a sport, however. It is going after this aquatic monster that the skins of the sharks may be tanned and used as a substitute for leather.

Shark Hooks for the Govern

The experiment is now under way, and over the fence, as it were, is J. W. Fordham, a New London artisan, whose blacksmith shop is in the vicinity of pictur-esque Shaw's Cove, for in that little smithy 10.000 shark hooks were made in three sizes for the United States Govern

Unfair Advantage of Brer Rabbit

Prom the Leonardtown Beacon.
Captain Tommie Hill of Mattapani is th

and hangs an onion out of reach. Brer Rabbit goes for the balt he falls into sh him out and consequently have rabbi for breakfast. A Cuplet.

te thirteen States hold out for Rum

SHRINKING RUSSIA.

After Three Hundred Years She Is as the First Romanoff Made Her.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I is significant that the Romanoff dynasty these troubles that forced Michael, th and Sweden, just 300 years ago Russia was cut off from the Baltle

Sea by losing the country about Petrograd to the King of Sweden, while the Swedish King's cousin, the King of Po land, gained Smolensk city and came within striking distance of Moscow.

and the establishment of provisional governments in Finland and Livonia should have restricted the Russian republic pretty nearly to the western limcan Pilgrim Fathers. Let us hope that Russian republic will keep Petrograd Russia's "window on the Baltic Sea," which seems in danger of become "Wilhelmsburg" if civil war con NICOLAL EDUARDOVITCH. NEW YORK, December 18.

### DR. STILL'S APPEARANCE. At 80 He Did Not Look Like Lincols or Dress Oddly.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Dr. Still neither looked like Lincoln nor wore his trousers in his boots. I fear that the alleged description of the doctor's appearance and idiosyncrasies is simply another piece of the sort of misinformano means unlikely. tion in the East relating to Western men which is not uncomin

While living in Topeka a few years ago I saw Dr. Still frequently during a reunion of the members of the first Kansas Legislature. He was then about 80 years of age. Certainly he did not scribe maximum rations voluntarily or look like Lincoln. He was several inches even compulsorily is not the same thing shorter than Lincoln. I never heard any such resemblance referred to.

There were no noticeable peculiarities in his dress or manner. He was well groomed, quiet, modest. That he wore ils trousers legs in his boots half a century ago, as did many men, both in the East and the West, is not unlikely. That unless it is known that the wheat is Dr. Still was a man of ability and of the highest character cannot be doubted. Rev. E. W. BANKIN.

NEW YORK, December 17.

### THE GREAT SHIP The Leviathan, Once the Vaterland Causes a Dispute.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir; Our authorities have interned a German liner called the Veder or something sim Will you tell me how many people she will hold and what is the capacity as far as people are concerned of the largest ship known"

I was talking with a very prominent man and he insisted that he read somewhere that a certain ship, the Veder, a supply. German interned vessel, could accommodate 20,000 people. I told him nust be 2,000. Impossible to put 20,000 on a vessel I know of now. HARRY S. METCALF. ELIZABETHTOWN, December 18.

Probably our correspondent's informant had in mind the former Hamburg-

#### modelling may not now be disclosed. THE COAL FAMINE. Shortage in the Homes; Heat in the Places of Luxury.

To THE HOLTON OF THE SUN-SEC. A great deal of that eaving grace known the question of heat conservation. Instead of closing schools, curtailing transportation, suggesting that people economize in lighting their homes, heat- pounds of bread a week, which is raised, papers consider the situation full to sufficiation public conveyances to eight pounds in the case of men our dangerous possibilities of the places of luxury, the very nature quantities of coal for heating, to say

for the electric lights? The homes where old people, children and sickness abide should be the last my latest interview: NEW YORK, December 18. M. H. A.

# Not in the Curriculum.

find the fault properly placed, as I cona practical coal man or a railroad man, NEW YORK, December 18.

# What Mattered It There?

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIE: ADECpos the coal shortage, this morning I met the janitor in the hall of the apartment building where I am privileged to in the cellar. Imagine my surprise en he informed me that they had been out of coal for the past week and conse quently we had had no fire, and I never noticed the difference in the temperature of our rooms! W. A. H. New York, December 18.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir; What relief to have the blinking of the advertising signs stopped for a night! And why not every night? Some of them have been nulsances for years to those who live in high buildings where he flashing lights stare into their windows and offend the methetic taste.

It seems an affront when the city is trying to save coal-to save lives. one would the sooner buy the thing advertised for seeing those signs of waste. In this acute shortage of coal why cannot we get along without brilliancy every night in the week instead of only Sundays and Thursdays? Let us economize and help save before we are actu-A CONSERVER. NEW YORK, December 18

> A New Song of Hate, From the Asheville Citizen

My Tuesdays are meatless.
My Wednesdays are wheatless.
I'm getting more catless
Each day. My home it is houtless.

The bar rooms are treat My coffee is awectless, Each day I get poorer And wiser.

My stockings are feetles My trousers are seatless By gosh—but I do hate The Kalser!

# THE MECHANISM OF FOOD CONTROL IN GREAT BRITAIN.

An Official Report Which Describes the Situation With Unusual Minute ness and Shows Clearly the Necessity of Food Economy.

nuteness which puts all previous cal-

This report also disposes of the op-

more or less a scare. The comfort of

present is sufficient is seriously dimin-

making four voyages a year. The im-

rations, but compulsory rationing is by

shed by the statement that a great

timistic belief that food economy

culations into the shade.

nations is fully displayed.

ration will be provided.

The British papers have devoted the very heavy industrial work or on agri ast few weeks to testing, so far as the cultural work. The distinction between sexes is sub public may, the actual working of the new voluntary rations. The result is illuminating, and it is free from the ing to physiological percentages. It "dope" of statistics. Bir Arthur Yapp's not always practical to conclude that official report, an outline of which is women require less food than men unnow nublished in the weekly periodicals, includes for special reasons vey of the whole western front, from the United Kingdom to Italy and the Mediterranean coast. Australia and the United States have parts in this scheme that are described with a mi-

This aspect of food control may not be popular in the United States, Or the other hand no objection can knowing that the world's supply at sons leading a sedentary life. This is four and a half pounds for men and three and a half proportion of cargo ships are only The machine which is doing most work requires most fuel.

clearer when the mechanism or working of the food supply of the allied Flour may be taken is stead of bread at the rate of three At present England is on voluntary One of the most interesting features saved can be taken in other cerea! of the report is the light it throws on the way the submarines affect the distribution of food. Week by week the losses vary a good deal as well as the amount of actual stocks. To pretion; likewise he may take half pound extra of bread in exchange for ration includes the average amount tity permitted; the retail supply must depend largely on the stocks available. bacon or suet, which are bought with Amounts must vary owing to the fluctuation in the amount of various staple articles in the country or in sight. working of this system is not eas It is not much use, for instance, to

In some foodstuffs the scarcity at hand. Owing to shipping conditions serious. While fish, potatoes, oatmeal there is no absolute security that the barley, rice, tapioca and maize are Recently the British Wheat Commischeese, bacon, fats, peas and leans on paid for fourteen million quarters are scarce. In fact eggs and sugar of Australian wheat. But various are hardly procurable. The stocks of causes, notably the work of subma-sugar are barely sufficient to supps rines, prevented this amount from be- the allowance of half a pound a week ing shipped, and so far the great bulk and sometimes even this amount was of the wheat is still in Australia. Again. Wholesale fire France's production of wheat has dehave little sugar and they have litt.

The Wheat Commission, after the The average yield for ten years before the war was \$8,000,000 tons, and the country imported 10,000,000 more. Last | careful consideration. year the harvest yield was only 40,000,-000 tons. It is obvious that great efforts must be made to maintain the In England the difference between the new and the old rations which has results are wholly mischievous. Yet most impressed the public is the attempt to grade the consumption of food allowance of children is being our bread according to occupation and sex. It is notable that the amount of meat | defend the practic

and sugar is reduced, foreshadowing the coming scarcity in these foods. For the first time the amounts of "other work is undoubtedly right The general effect is to increase the quantity of brend allowed. Formerly fruits, fats, fresh vegetables and sugar the maximum bread ration was four pounds a week all round. This amount | men and women must be supplement

is now allowed for women on ordinary by other foods. industrial work or on domestic service. It rises to five pounds for women on the world is not clear. In Englan The maximum bread rations for men lowance of two pounds a are higher, being based upon physio- against two and a half pounds and logical tables. The method is defended. the older rations. The ration of but it may overturn the whole scheme, and sugar is slowly declining. Thus men on ordinary industrial or and fats are rationed at ten our other manual work are allowed seven week, but the supply is uncertain

sence of Versatility Like His.

many of his recipes are adorning the his hands full, a guest sent to is much discussion as to the coal famine pages of various cook books. One of ducks to be plucked and conseil as xisting throughout the United the pleasures of Alexandre Dumas was as possible; he would in the In all the discussion I fail to (it is said) to be occasionally present have some lobster Newburs. at the Paris chefs' meetings. He was ster had gone up and the duceive it. It seems to me that if we had very fond of discussing the merits of nearly done, when down to be instead of a college president, at the according to his own judgment. He was head waiter, all excited head of the Coal Administration, the willing to listen to any argument raised d'hôtel, plate in hand, told me that conditions prevailing to-day would not by the critics on his own cooking. Some- was sent by Mr. Blank to exist. Why not urge the appointment times he would cook a dish in front of find out since when the label all the cooking wizards, accepting with wearing feathers. As an thanks any suggestion that would im- was showing to me a feather stark to prove his concoction. He also had a piece of to teen sense of humor. On one occasion, while he was busy cooking a tenderloin very pleasant to find a feather steak, with raisins, Madeira wine and food, even in a plate of currant jelly, he overheard some re- much less in a dish of loberer a le New

calling such practice an abomination. impossible task of satisfying everybody, probability have been avoid-A good hearted man was Dumas; a

eat man and a great cook.

"We have good sports among the guests in our hotel. Some are good fishermen and good hunters. Now that ducks and other fowl shot by these gentlemen are sent to me at any time of the day or night with the order to have them plucked and ready to be cooked immediately or at a specified Club and so that each of time. The guests have, of course, a per. sailors we expect may recit fect right to expect us to do that work. will our friends from even We get paid for that purpose and it is in to the club at his Fift fair that we should do our best sort of useful gifts wrateto satisfy our customers. But if by fation? Please enclose some kind of arrangement all the birds the boys may acknowledge eaten by the customers that day could be brought into the kitchen together, in- New York, December 14

ject to a great many qualifications. Sconomists show the danger of trust-

less it is known at what rate they are each turning out work. Sometimes worker. In the munition shops, for instance, there is a night shift of workers who are rather more punctual and efficient than the men yet they get less bread under the

pounds for women

Bread in this sense includes for the supply of which at present is satquarters of a pound of flour for every sound of bread, Similarly, if the full bread ration is not used the amoun Any person may take half a pound o over and above his meat ratio in exchange for hair a pound of bread which is deducted from his bread rameat. It is to be noted that the men out bone, must count for one-quarter more than their actual weight. To prescribe a voluntary ration of bread of a hardship than actual famine.

clined and may decline still further, or no butter.

examination of food supplies and much definite conclusions which are in somrespects opposed to the claims of theorists in the United States. Thus sel entific witnesses declare that children must not be rationed. The physical in this country in many homes the down, and some physicians actually

An additional allowance of bread t school children and coung adults mus have a generous diet. It must includ It is admitted that the bread ration

The position of the meat supply men and women workers have an a

DUMAS AS A COOK. Plumepatte the Chef Laments the Ab. easier and much simplified. We con

rine, lard and oils) are specified.

heavy industrial work.

Mr. Alphonse Piumepatte, the chef, in to many disagreements that the fau "Alexandre Dumas was as great a cook as he was a writer. The culinary art owes much to his inventive gentus. Al- what happened at lunch time though not signed by the author, a good | middle of the rush, when everyly some new dish, approving or criticising, came the waiter, the captain and t

marks coming from a group of cooks burg. In the hurry up, exwho were inimical to the idea of having confusion attending a big ris anything sweet blended with the meat, worse by the fact that to of "There will be plenty of time for the draw and dress the ducks, a me asses to bray after they have tasted down found its way into the saurepa some of this!" shouted Dumas. The where the lobster was being prepare dish was passed around and found ex- Hence the kick. The cook cellent by everybody, including the erst- could have seen the observers (said while sceptics. If we only had a few had he looked closely. The war of men like Dumas among our rich phi- not see it either. lanthropists, what a difference it would Thes things will happen make in our trade! People in general however careful a man is: would certainly be more kind to the are, though that if the duc-silent and invisible cooks working below sent carlier and not during t who have their own troubles with the feu, the unhappy acciden

"Cheer up, Mr. Plumepatte. You seem the extenuating circumstant to take all your troubles to heart," I said to the chef as I saw his eyes bie, belonged to him. On moistening. But he replied. "How can Just take off the lobete it be otherwise? It is very well to say be snapped at the head warthat we get paid to do our work, but it is only human to expect at least one cheery word of encouragement once in a while. A musician, an actor, even a feather, but I draw the line clown, rets some applause; but a cook oh, la, la! If he only could coin every friend, you find me so g kick into a dollar he'd be doing well-

stead of one or two at a time, and man times a day, our work would be tenfe then arrange our time so that our rec | lar work should not somer ! To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Said quence. It would besides pur a

system is bound cooner or later to be to the chef. "As an instance I am going to te

"Now, I have to admit to had to leave their regular were to plus

would perhaps give me as the ducks, primary came of trying to explain to him to occurrence; 'I am willing feather, as long as H's no feather duster.' That's ach with my epirit scraping cluded Mr. Plumeparte

New York, December 18

Christmas Presents for Sallers